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PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: S-16

On 5-7-07
By Angela Loding
Angela Loding

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent of: David C. Hovda

Application No.: 10/735,477

Filing Date: December 11, 2003

For: **METHODS FOR VISUALIZING AND
TREATING INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS**

)
) Examiner: Alex B. Toy

)
) Art Unit: 3739

)
) Confirmation No.: 2479

)
) **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE**
) **STATEMENT UNDER**
) **37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98**
)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the references that are listed on the attached PTO form 1449.

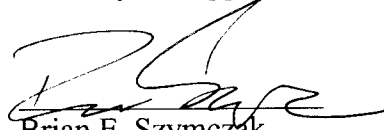
It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue there from.

These citations do not constitute an admission that the references are relevant or material to the claims.

This IDS is being filed after a Non-Final Office Action and accordingly, Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner is to charge \$180 and any additional fees necessary or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0359 of ArthroCare Corporation in order to effectuate this filing.

If there are any matters concerning this Application that may be cleared up in a telephone conversation, please contact Applicant's attorney at 512.391.3961.

Respectfully submitted
Attorney for Applicant,


Brian E. Szymczak
Reg. No. 47,120

5/7/2007
Date

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:
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| PTO-1449 Information Disclosure Citation in an Application | | | | Application No. | | Applicant(s) | | | |
| | | | | 10/735,477 | | David C. Hovda | | | |
| | | | | Docket Number | | Group Art Unit | | Filing Date | |
| | | | | S-16 | | 3739 | | December 11, 2003 | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | | |
| | | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE | | |
| | A. | 6146380 | 11/14/2000 | Racz et al. | 606 | 41 | 1/9/1998 | | |
| | B. | 6176857 | 1/23/2001 | Ashley | 606 | 32 | 9/22/1998 | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | | |
| | | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | | |
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| NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | | |
| | | DOCUMENT (Including Author, Title, Source, and Pertinent Pages) | | | | | | DATE | |
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| EXAMINER | | | | | DATE CONSIDERED | | | | |
| EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant. | | | | | | | | | |